

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4799

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CPRS, VE

SUBJECT: EXTRADITION - CARLO BORDONI

REF: STATE 22604

1. THE GOV'S REVOCATION ORDER OF BORDONI'S CITIZENSHIP HAS NOT YET BEEN PUBLISHED. WE ARE ENDEAVORING TO ASCERTAIN THE REASON FOR THE DELAY FROM THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL RELATIONS.

2. THERE SO FAR APPEARS TO BE NO TIMETABLE FOR THE EXTRADITION HEARING. THIS IS PROBABLY DUE TO THE DELAY IN THE FORMAL REVOCATION OF BORDONI'S CITIZENSHIP WITHOUT WHICH THE SUPREME COURT IS UNABLE TO PROCEED. DOCUMENTATION SUPPLIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS SUFFICIENT.

3. ONE OF CARACAS' AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS BROKE THE STORY SEPT. 15 THAT BORDONI WAS IN VENEZUELA AND WANTED FOR BANK FRAUD IN THE U.S. SINCE THEN THE PRESS IN GENERAL HAS GIVEN PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE CASE, INCLUDING INTERVIEWS WITH POLICE DIRECTOR JUAN MARTIN ECHEVERRIA AND BORDONI, WHO TOLD PRESS HE HAS BROUGHT SUIT LOCALLY AGAINST EMBASSY OFFICERS, DCM DIEGO ASENCIO AND JOSEPH CANAAN (SIC) FOR HARASSMENT. EMBASSY CONFIRMED TO PRESS THAT THERE IS AN INDICTMENT AGAINST BORDONI IN THE U.S. AND THAT HIS EXTRADITION HAS BEEN REQUESTED.

4. COMMENT: WE PRESUME THE NAME JOSEPH CANAAN REFERS TO LEGATT JOSEPH LEO SINCE THE EMBASSY RECEIVED AGAUSUT 31 A LETTER FROM THE JUDGE OF THE FIRST DEPARTMENTAL COURT OF CARACAS

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INQUIRING WITH REGARD TO THE IDENTITIES OF ASENCIO AND LEO.

WE REPLIED TO THE ENQUIRY BY NOTE TO THE FONMINISTRY CONFIRMING
THAT ASENCIO AND LEO ARE EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND THAT BORDONI
IS UNDER INDICTMENT IN THE U.S.

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